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Attention: Pediatricians, Obstetricians, Otolaryngologists-Head and Neck Surgery, EENT, Audiologists, General Practice, Family Practice, and Hospital Providers

Recently, the Medicaid Agency made a change that would no longer allow for providers to bill newborn hearing screenings (procedure codes 92585, 92586, 92587, 92588) performed in an inpatient setting. This change was made on February 12, 2002. In processing claims, the EDS system cannot allow for place of service restrictions to be date of service specific. If you have a claim for newborn hearing screenings (identified above) performed prior to February 12, 2002 on an inpatient basis, please submit that claim hard-copy/paper to the attention of Brenda Vaughn, Alabama Medicaid Agency, P.O. Box 5624, Montgomery, AL 36103-5624. Claims must be received by June 1, 2002, to be considered for payment. Claims received after that date will be denied. If you have questions, call the PAC Unit at 1-800-688-7989.

In conjunction with the restriction placed on providing this service on an inpatient basis, Medicaid limited this procedure to certain provider types on an ambulatory care basis. The limited provider types are: Audiologists, Otolaryngologists - Head and Neck Surgery, and EENT. Medicaid is considering adding pediatricians to the provider types allowed to bill this service on an ambulatory care basis. Further notification will be forthcoming on any changes to policy. Written questions/comments can be addressed to Brenda Vaughn at the address above.

March 18, 2002